

REMARKS

1. *Status of claims*

After entry of the above amendment, claims 13-15, 19-29, and 32-49 are pending. Claims 1-12, 16-18, and 30-31 have been canceled without prejudice.

2. *Support for amendment*

The amendment of claim 19 incorporates limitations recited in claim 16, on which it previously depended. No new matter has been added by this amendment.

3. *Claim rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102*

The Examiner rejected claim 31 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Chinese Patent 1,163,780. In light of the above amendment, claim 31 has been canceled.

4. *Claim rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103*

The Examiner rejected claims 1-12, 16-18, and 30 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over Chinese Patent 1,163,780. In light of the above amendment, claims 1-12, 16-18, and 30 have been canceled.

The Examiner also rejected claims 1-12, 16-18, and 30 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over Chinese Patent 1,163,780 in view of Robinson *et al.*, *PVP: A Critical Review...*, Lewis Publ., Inc., pp. 10-19. In light of the above amendment, claims 1-12, 16-18, and 30 have been canceled.

5. *Claim objections*

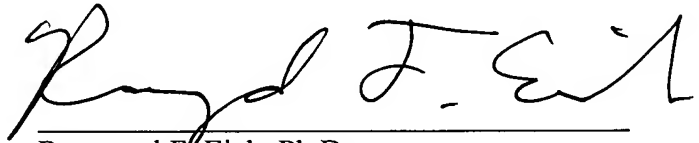
The Examiner objected to claim 19 on the grounds that it depended on a rejected base claim. By the above amendment, claim 19 has been rewritten in independent form incorporating the limitations of the rejected base claim. Applicants submit the basis for this rejection has been removed.

6. *Conclusion*

Applicants submit all pending claims 13-15, 19-29, and 32-49 are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned patent agent at (713) 934-4065 with any questions, comments or suggestions relating to the referenced patent application.

Respectfully submitted,

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